



Violations of the Israeli Occupation Army of the Palestinian Child Rights in 2021

Monitoring and analysis



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Introduction

In any situation where the Palestinians deal with the Israeli occupation army in order to show a form of opposition, they are subjected to abuse, whether this opposition is peaceful or resisting the actions of the soldiers. International law legitimizes the opposition of the indigenous people against any form of occupation, but Israel sees it as aggression, which makes it always resort to force to prevent the Palestinians from raising their voice. The humanitarian conditions of the Palestinians inside the occupied territories are getting worse due to the Israeli intransigence and injustice against the basic rights and requirements of the Palestinian people.

Palestinian children are subjected to multiple violations by the Israeli occupation army, despite it being one of the first countries to sign the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1991. The Palestinian child represents the first seed of resistance, and this abuse of children constitutes an obstacle to the continuity of Palestinian life, as Palestinian children face threatening of denial of education, arbitrary detention, torture, and other unfair trials, murder and sometimes rape. Since 2011, the occupation forces have executed more than 781 Palestinian children, in addition to large-scale arrests of children, despite the “Corona” pandemic.

Given the hundreds of annual cases of violations of children's rights, this report aims to highlight the reality of the Israeli army's violations against Palestinian children since the beginning of 2021, and mention examples of the most prominent cases of these violations, with reference to some numbers and statistics. The indicators of 2021 represent a harsh year for the lives of Palestinian children,

especially after the recent escalations in Jerusalem and the West Bank, especially the Gaza Strip, which was subjected to purification campaigns due to attacks by the Israeli Air Force.

1- Fact of the violations of the Israeli Army against Palestinian Children

It is not possible for the Zionist occupation country, since it was planted in the region, to live without certain enemies. In the Palestinian interior, children are considered the most dangerous weapon that threatens its national security. The Israeli occupation army targets Palestinian children by capturing, imprisoning, killing and depriving them of their most basic rights that are granted to them by international law. Not only that, children under the age of 18 are subjected to military trials, the aim of which is to profit from the Ministry of Security, where the financial fine or bail may reach 10,000 shekels.

There are many pictures of the reckless abuse of bullets by the occupation soldiers, which result in the killing of children, and this is what raises the media uproar inside Israel. For example: when the occupation soldiers try to arrest a child and they cannot catch him, they aim their guns at him and shoot live bullets.

There are laws and military orders on which the Israeli occupation forces base their detention of children.

- **The 1945 Emergency Law:** used by Israel to detain Palestinians in Area A (under the control of the Palestinian Authority); Although this law was repealed as soon

as the Palestinian constitution was issued; Israel does not have the right to use it when it detains citizens of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

- **Military Order 1500:** allows the detention of any Palestinian citizen- regardless of his age- for 18 days; without being brought before a court and without being allowed to meet with his lawyer. This order allows for an extension of the detention period, according to the decision of the Israeli military commander.
- **Military Order 101:** allows imprisonment for up to ten years as a punishment for participating in a gathering of ten or more people; Israel considers it a political grouping; or participating in the distribution of materials against the Israeli occupation; or even raise the Palestinian flag.
- **Military Order 132:** considers the Palestinian child over 16 years old is considered a mature person.

These internal laws in Israel contradict the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1990, which Israel signed in October 1991, and specifically Article No. 16, which states:

"There shall be no arbitrary or unlawful interference with a child in his private life, family, home or correspondence, nor any unlawful attack on his honor or reputation. A child has the right to be protected by law from such interference or prejudice."

In addition to the above, the Israeli Knesset enacted in 2015 a set of laws to facilitate the procedures for arresting and prosecuting Palestinian children, such as: the Law on the Prosecution of Children under 14 years of age, and the Law to increase the minimum penalty for stone-throwers in East Jerusalem.

In March 2019, the Hebrew newspaper, Ha'aretz הארץ, had published a report that nearly 1,000 Palestinian children under the age of 15 were being arrested by the

Israeli army and security forces on charges of stone throwing. The report indicated that the children of Azzun village in the northern West Bank, close to the settlement of “Qarneh Shomron-קרני שומרון”, are subjected to arrests, and in the period (2014-2019) more than 150 students were arrested in the only school in the village.

- **Denial of education:**

The Israeli occupation stubbornly resists the Palestinian education system, and is trying to displace Palestinian students through arbitrary measures such as arrest, imprisonment and severe injuries, in addition to severe pressure on the economic and living conditions of their families. More than half a million Palestinian children in the occupied territories live in extreme poverty, which prompted 3% of them to leave school and join the poor labor market early. The army forces put obstacles on the way to schools, harass them, inspect teachers and students in a humiliating manner, in addition to demolishing schools that embrace children, especially in Jerusalem and the Jordan Valley, and maintaining the home confinement sentence for children of the occupied Jerusalem, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Education.

The Ministry stated that the schools of Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip, the Old City of Hebron, the Jordan Valley, and schools in Area C remain between the distress of the occupation and the Corona pandemic, as the occupation prevents taking steps that would enable these schools technologically, as part of its tireless efforts to deprive students of reaching their educational institutions within the framework of a programmed policy. It affects identity and control of consciousness.

- **The United Nations**

The United Nations issues an annual report on violations of children's rights in conflict zones, and this year its title is "Stolen Childhood and a Future to Be Reformed". The report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations that was submitted to the UN Security Council dealt with the situation of the Palestinian child, that 340 Palestinian children were injured in the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip during the past year 2020. According to the report, 11 Palestinian children were martyred, 361 of them were arrested and 83 were subjected to physical torture at the hands of the Israeli occupation forces.

Despite the recent escalations and the abuses witnessed by the recent escalations, especially against the children of the Gaza Strip, Israel has not been included in the list of countries that violate children's rights (the list of shame) alongside ISIS and Boko Haram militias- as described by the Hebrew newspapers. It is worth noting that Israel was removed from the blacklist in 2015 during the tenure of former United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

- **Amnesty International**

Amnesty International's report for the year 20/21 "**The State of Human Rights in the World**" monitored the conditions of the Palestinian children, some of whom are forcibly displaced with their families from their homes, 9 children were killed, and the Israeli army detained about 157 children in prison, including two children in administrative detention and other forms of racial discrimination against 5 million Palestinian children who did not receive Corona vaccines.

• **International Criminal Court**

The Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Fatou Bensouda, has decided to launch an investigation into the situation in occupied Palestine. The investigation will cover crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court that have allegedly been committed since June 13, 2014. This accuses the Israeli army of war crimes in the West Bank, Jerusalem and Gaza, in addition to the arrest and trial of some Israeli officials such as former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, then Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alon, and current Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz, who was serving as Chief of the Israeli General Staff at the time. And joining them a number of Israeli army leaders, such as the commander of the Israeli Air Force, Amir Eshel, the commander of the Israeli Navy, Ram Rotberg, the commander of the Israeli Southern Forces, Sami Turjuman, and others, numbering more than 16 Israeli generals.

It is worth noting that as a result of the 2014 war, 532 children were killed, about 4,710 were injured, and the Israeli army arrested 202 children, according to the Palestinian News and Information Agency (Wafa).

2- Violations and data for the Palestinian child in 2021

The year 2021 witnessed, since its beginning, an increase in the number of human rights violations against Palestinian children by the forces of the Israeli occupation army. The policies of the occupation continue against children, and several reports indicated that the occupation displaced about 200 children in the first quarter of 2021, including 87 children in Jerusalem, in addition to threatening

53 schools with demolition. While there were 168 children inside the occupation prisons during that period, and their number, as of April 4 (the Day of the Palestinian Child), reached 140.

In May, the residents of Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in East Jerusalem were subjected to forced displacement after a court ruling from their homes by settlers, with protection from the occupation soldiers. The latest escalated into violent confrontations that amounted to targeting civilians militarily in the Gaza Strip under the pretext of striking the arms of Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

According to what was documented by the Defense for Children International (DCI) in Palestine, 75 children were killed: 67 of them in Gaza, 8 in the West Bank and Jerusalem, and 210 children were wounded. In addition, 450 children were arrested as a result of these events. It has recently been noticed that children as young as 8 years old are arrested by the occupation. These data can be summarized in the following table:

	Martyrdom	Arrest	Injury	Total No. of violations
No. of Childs	75	450	210	735

Table No. (1): Violations of the Occupation Army after the May War 2020

With regard to the number of children who have been captured and arrested by the Israeli army since the beginning of 2021:

According to Palestinian statistics; The occupation authorities arrest annually about 500-700 Palestinian children, and this year records the largest percentage of

arrests against Palestinian children who are exposed to various types of physical and psychological violence accompanying barbaric arrests.

According to the Palestinian Prisoners Authority, there are 225 children still inside the prisons of the Israeli occupation. The children are distributed in prisons: "Ofer Prison- כלא עופר", "Megiddo Prison- מגידו", and "Damon Prison- כלא דיימון". The following table shows the number of arrests of children by month, from the beginning of 2021 until the beginning of August.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Total of Arrests
No. of Children	93	68	48	61	471	92	37	780

Table No. (2): The number of Palestinian child prisoners since the beginning of 2021

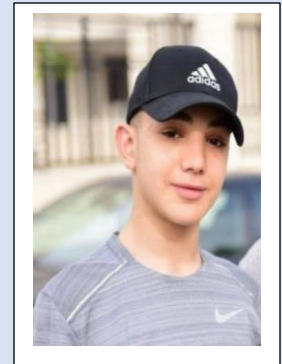
Source: Prisoners and Ex-Prisoners Affairs Commission

This large number of child prisoners face violence, cruelty, and violent beatings from the soldiers. They are left without treatment. They are only given painkillers, and other poor-quality food they give them. And not allowing them to go to the toilets, and sometimes preventing them from talking to their families, in addition to the medical neglect in detention centers and the failure to apply precautionary precautions in light of the Corona pandemic. In most cases, the main reason is throwing stones or participating in protests.

3- Monitoring of some cases since the beginning of 2021

• Amal Nakhleh - 16 years old

He was administratively arrested from his home in Jalazoun camp on January 21, and the child Nakhleh suffers from a rare disease called myasthenia gravis, in addition to shortness of breath. The military judge issued an administrative detention order against Nakhle, and the Ofer court confirmed the order against him for a period of 6 months, subject to extension. Source: The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories - B'Tselem.



•Aws Salah El-Din - 10 years, and Mohamed Salah El-Din - 8 years

On Sunday, February 21, 2021, soldiers arrested the two children, Aws Salah El-Din and his brother Muhammad, from the village of Hizma, northeast of Jerusalem, while they were riding their bicycles outside the house. The soldiers held the two children for two



hours on the pretext that they had thrown stones at them. The occupation forces released them on the night of the same day after no accusations against them were proven. Source: The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories- B'Tselem.

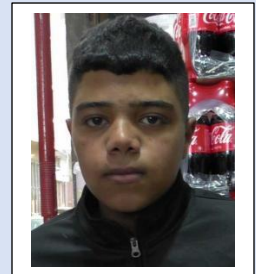
• Obeida Jawabra - 18 years old

From Al-Aroub refugee camp, north of Hebron, in the south of the occupied West Bank. He was martyred on Monday, May 17, after being shot by Israeli soldiers after he was hit by live bullets in the vicinity of the heart, during clashes that erupted in Al-Aroub refugee camp. Source: Palestinian Information Center.



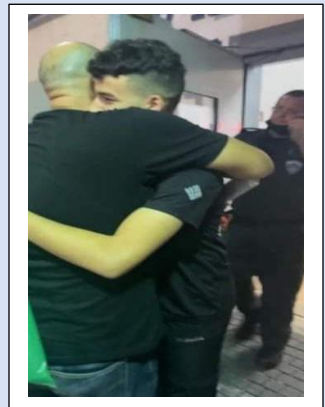
•Sanad Muhammad Moqbel - 12 years old

He was arrested on charges of throwing stones, and a force of the occupation army, consisting of 10 soldiers, stormed his house in Beit Ummar, north of Hebron, on May 21. He was detained for 31 days and paid a fine of 2,000 Israeli shekels. Source: The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories - B'Tselem.



•Muhammad Ihsan Siuri - 17 years old

On Thursday 1/7/2021, the occupation authorities released the Jerusalemite child, Muhammad Ihsan Al-Siuri, from the town of Silwan, south of Al-Aqsa Mosque, on the condition that he be imprisoned for nine months in the town of Sur Baher away from his home, and he paid a fine of 7,000 shekels. It is reported that the Israeli occupation forces arrested him in front of his school in the town of Silwan, and Al-Siuri spent a



month in the notorious Al-Maskobiya detention center, subjected to the various conditions of the Shin Bet interrogation. Source: Amad Media.

•Islam Dar Nasser - 16 years old

During one of the demonstrations that took place during the recent escalations in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood and the Gaza Strip, the child Islam Nasser from Bil'in village in East Jerusalem was killed after two soldiers shot and wounded the boy from a distance of approximately forty meters while he was throwing stones at them, knowing that he did not pose a threat



to anyone. who are they? Source: The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories - B'Tselem.

•Muhammad Al-Alami, 12 years old

He was martyred on Thursday 29/7/2021 after being shot by the Israeli occupation army in his father's car while returning home without any entanglements or demonstrations. The soldiers fired 13 live rounds at him, one of them hit him. The incident became known in the press as "The Bread Boy".



Source: Al-Mayadeen

Conclusion

The Palestinian child faces the most severe restrictions and violations in the world, and the Israeli occupation army continues to infringe on all the rights of the Palestinian child guaranteed to him by international conventions and treaties. The Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that: “Inhuman and illegal Israeli practices threaten the human security of Palestinians, including children, and violate their basic rights, including the right to self-determination, in desperate attempts to distort the generation of children to implement its policies of forced deportation, and the destruction of the future and security of the Palestinian people. and his safety.”

The Israeli occupation seriously and systematically violates the rights of Palestinian children without consequences, including home demolitions, settler violence and terror, and repeated attacks on schools, affecting their safety, livelihood and mental health.

In 2021, the indicators of violations against children by the Israeli army increased, by displacing them from their homes, putting pressure on their livelihoods, and threatening their educational future by demolishing the teacher and arresting their teachers. Until the end of July, 250 Palestinian children were inside Israeli prisons, and the number of those who were arrested reached 780. Until the mentioned period, the Israeli army killed about 80 children.

Despite all these humanitarian violations, especially in the last May war on the Gaza Strip, no official in Israel was affected under international sanctions, and so far the United Nations has not included Israel in the blacklist of violators of children's rights in conflict areas in the world.